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CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY



Bible Fellowship Church

Formerly

Mennonite Brethren In Christ Church

ZIONSVILLE, PA.

MRR

ROY A. HERTZOG, PASTOR

289.774827

M473e

TO THE WORK

To the work! to the work! we are servants of God,
Let us follow the path that our Master has trod;
With the balm of His counsel our strength to renew,
Let us do with our might what our hands find to do.

To the work! to the work! let the hungry be fed;
To the fountain of life let the weary be led;
In the cross and its banner our glory shall be,
While we herald the tidings, "Salvation is free!"

To the work! to the work, there is labor for all;
For the kingdom of darkness and error shall fall;
And the name of Jehovah exalted shall be,
In the loud-swelling chorus, "Salvation is free!"

To the work! to the work! in the strength of the Lord,
And a robe and a crown shall our labor reward;
When the home of the faithful our dwelling shall be,
And we shout with the ransomed, "Salvation is free!"

Toiling on, toiling on, toiling on, toiling on,
Let us hope and trust, let us watch and pray,
And labor till the Master comes.

Fanny J. Crosby

PREFACE

In writing this booklet we wished to make possible the history of the Zionsville Bible Fellowship Church. The lack of source material from the earlier years made the writing difficult and time consuming. Special mention must be made of the advice received from Harold P. Shelly, Professor of Church History and Greek at Berean Bible School, Allentown, Pennsylvania. We also want to express our appreciation to the following sources of information: J. A. Huffman, *History of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church* (1920); E. R. Storms, ed. *Church Handbook* (1948); *Mennonite Brethren in Christ Pennsylvania Conference Year Book* (1896-1958); *Gospel Herald* (1882); and a newspaper clipping from the *Himmels Manna* (1859).

Special thanks are due to those that have gone over this book in its manuscript form — Pastor Roy A. Hertzog, Harold P. Shelly and Mrs. Lenora C. Knauer. We are thankful for those on the Patron List who contributed to make this book possible.

It is our desire that this book will inspire and challenge those that read it. In the process of writing this book we have been challenged and encouraged by the lives of the different pastors and members as they overcame trials and disappointments laboring for the Master. The words of the following song express the purpose of this booklet.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the Life-gate that all may go in.
O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

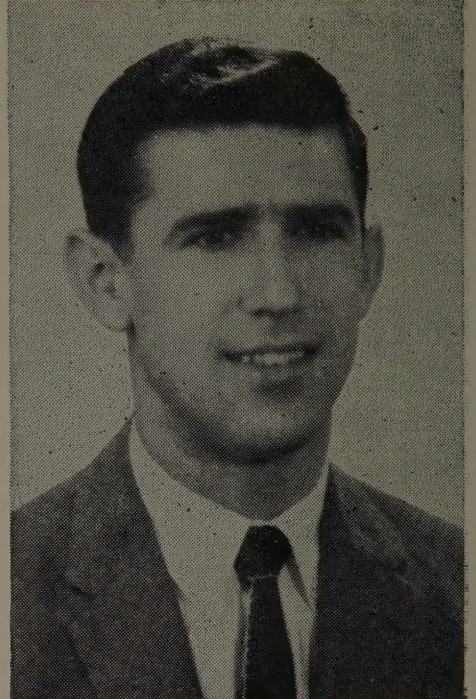
Fanny J. Crosby

Zionsville, Pennsylvania

July 10, 1959

Mr. and Mrs. Bright N. Heist

OUR PASTORS



GREETINGS

PAUL E. BAER

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." (I Samuel 7:12). These words tell of God's continual presence with the saints at the Zionsville church during the entire century. Think of it—100 years of unusual fellowship and ministry—and the first MBC church with this distinction.

"Holding forth the word of life", (Phil. 2:10) has seemingly been the watchword of this spiritual church through the years. No liberalism, but the unadulterated word of God has been faithfully taught. It will continue through the second century until Christ calls His own to be with Him. I was pleased to have had a small part of the ministry of this grand church.

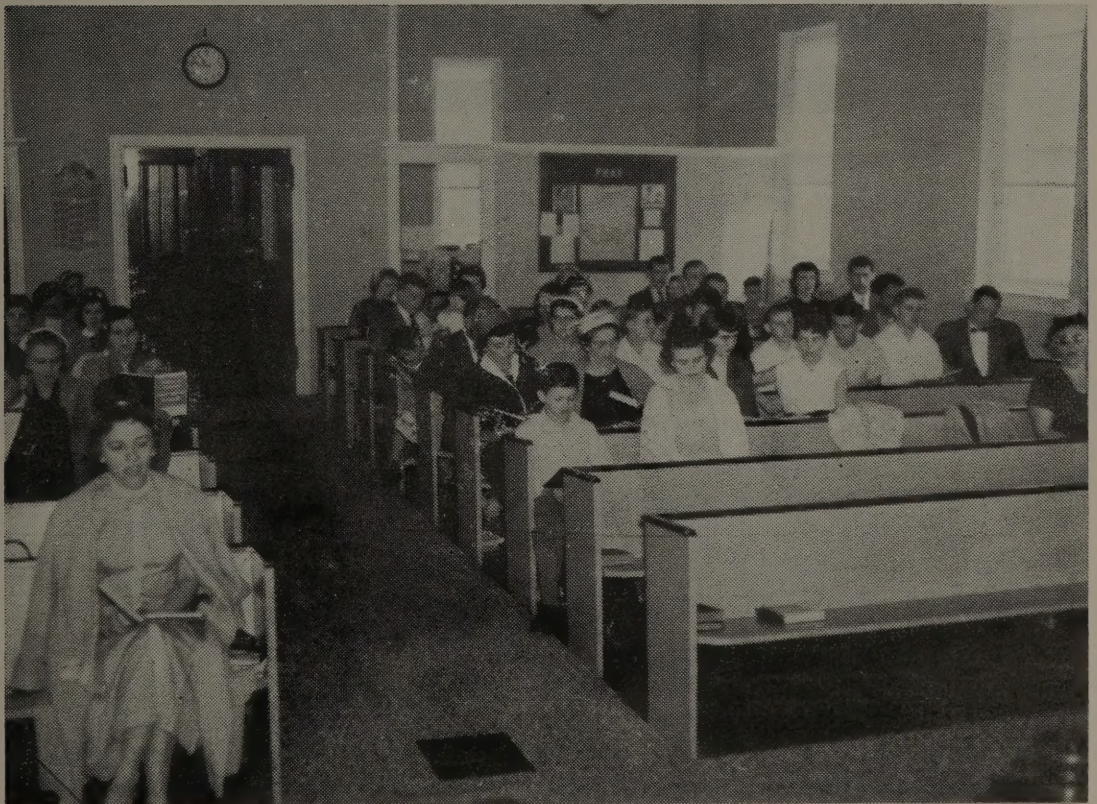
ROY A. HERTZOG

"Consider the wondrous works of God." The Lord's work has gone forward through the ministry of men of conviction and faithful members down through the years. I trust that in the short time remaining before the Lord comes again, each one of us might be found faithful in the great task which He has given to us of getting the Gospel out to the uttermost parts of the earth beginning right here in Zionsville. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," for "the night cometh, when no man can work."

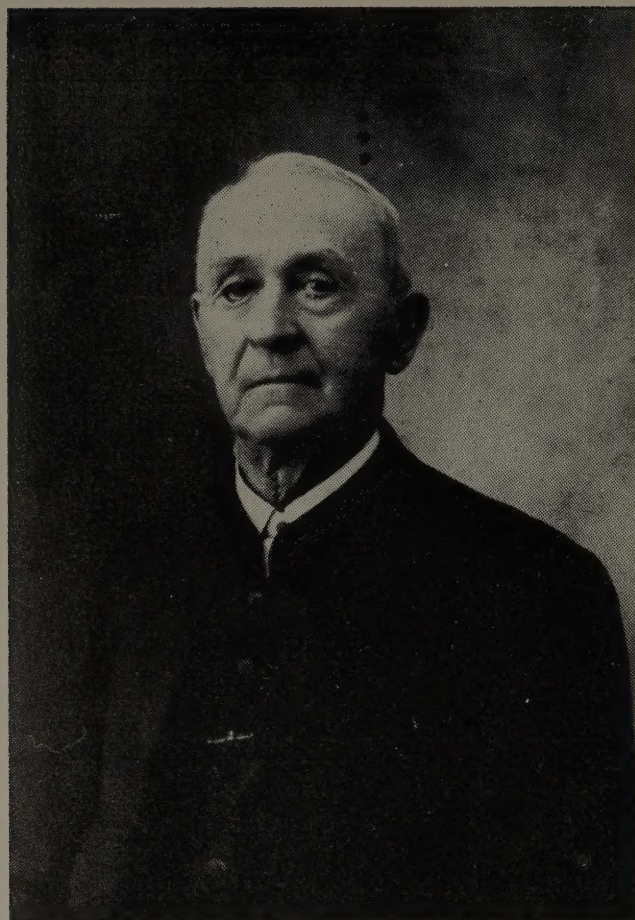
CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY



SINGING PRAISES UNTO THE LORD



FOUNDER



ELDER WILLIAM S. GEHMAN

Elder William S. Gehman was born on January 22, 1827, in Hereford Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

William spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. Later he learned the trade of a miller. While he was still single he had acquired a reputation as an honest and industrious miller. He attended small cottage prayer meetings with several men, one of whom was David Musselman, an uncle to his future wife. These men were members of the Mennonite Church and met together to study the Bible and pray. It was through these meetings that William became enlightened and gloriously converted. He had been reared in a German Lutheran family.

He married Anna Musselman, who was an ideal minister's wife. She was always ready to take over the responsibility of the family farm and chores. This made it possible for him to devote his time to the Lord's work. Mrs. William Gehman passed away on May 2, 1904. They had five sons and four daughters.

While he was still a young man, William Gehman was voted into the ministry by the congregation of the General Conference Mennonites at Zionsville. He was ordained to the ministry in 1849. When he was forbidden to hold prayer meetings, he felt he could not worship with his church so he and others organized a church near Zionsville in 1857.

He continued as a farmer even while he was preaching. For many years he was called "Father Gehman" because of his greatly advanced age. His eloquent logic and forcible arguments on behalf of "the truth" were recognized; he stirred the community. As a result calls came from all sources and many flattering positions were offered to him. He was firmly settled on some principles that were dearer than life to him, so he refused to accept any invitation.

He worked on his farm during the week and preached on Sundays. During the week he often drove miles through all kinds of weather for evening services. A ten or fifteen mile drive after an evening meeting did not disturb him. This was all done without pay, but with glowing expectation of the reward in eternity. While he was preaching, people would sometimes throw tomatoes and indigo ink at him. This did not discourage him and he continued to be the leader among the ministers and the congregations.

From 1879 until 1892, when he retired from active service, Father Gehman was the first presiding Elder of the Pennsylvania Conference. He held this office for thirteen consecutive years. He was the chairman of at least twenty-nine sessions of the conference. He never missed a conference or a camp meeting. He attended 16 semi-annual conference sessions while he was a member of the Oberholtzer Mennonite Conferences; 43 semi-annual conference sessions of the Evangelical Mennonites; 5 annual conference sessions of the Evangelical United Mennonites; 35 annual conference sessions of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ. This made a total of 99 consecutive semi-annual and annual conferences without missing a session. He also attend 7 general conference sessions and at 6 of these he was a member.

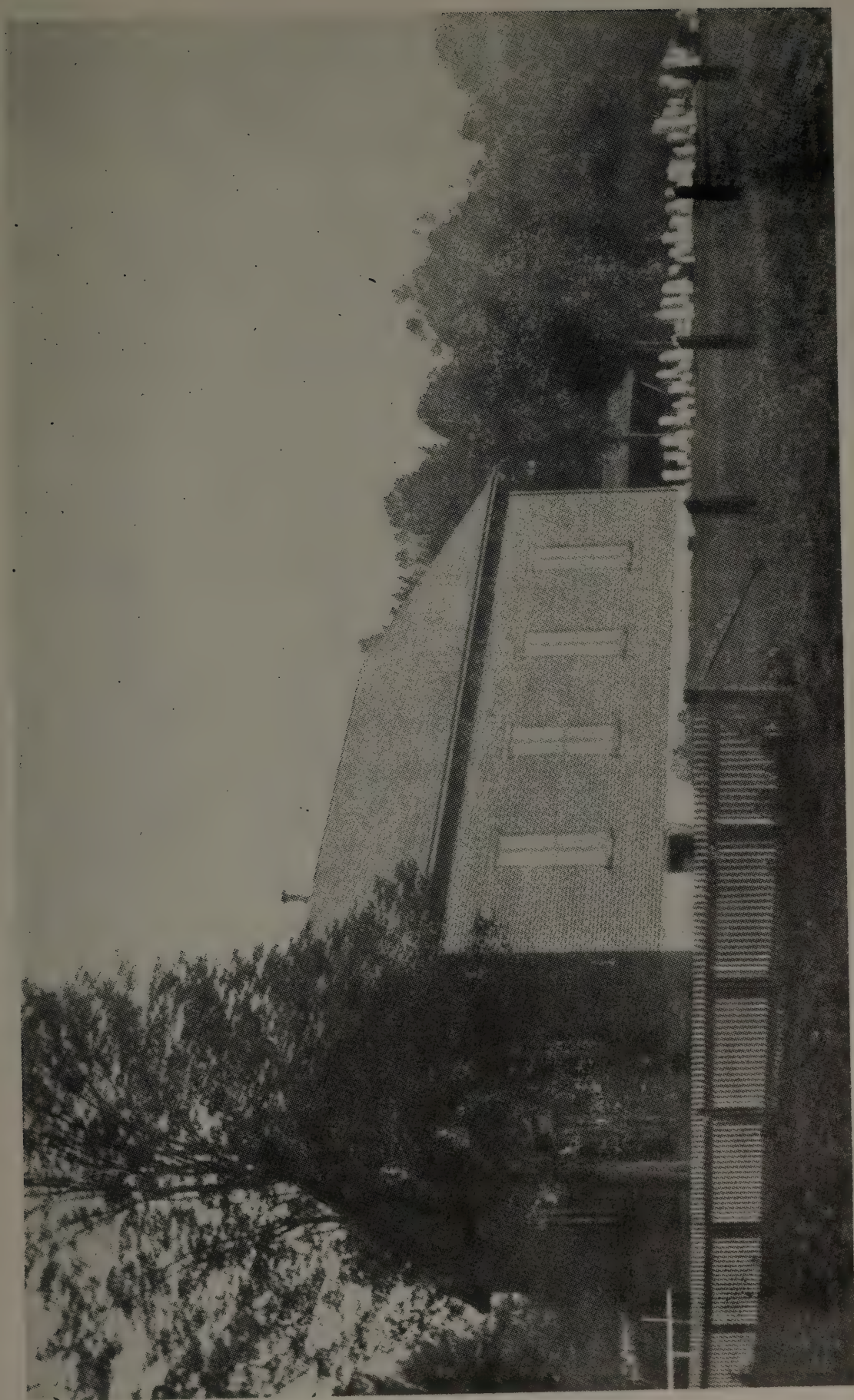
Although he was retired more than twenty-seven years, Father Gehman never lost interest in the Lord's work. He attended all the annual conferences up to the last one before his death. At the thirty-second annual conference Father Gehman said in his address:

I am like a tamed wild goose which will be content to be with the geese on the farm until in the fall when the wild geese are flying south; then you will have to clip its wings or it will fly away with the flock. I often said I will not go to the next conference, but when the time comes, you would have to clip my wings to keep me at home.

He took an increasing delight in his last years in seeing the progress of the work and upholding in prayer the young people who had been saved and brought into the active service of their Lord. He was held in high esteem by the younger men in the ministry for whom he always showed much respect.

He was a prominent and ever-welcome member at the Zionsville church. He was noted for being punctual in the Sunday school and kept his place in his class up to the last Sunday before his death. He could not be persuaded to fill an appointment that would take him away from the quarterly conference session. He always welcomed the Presiding Elders and took an active part in all of the services. His mind was keen and brilliant up to the end. He frequently preached for one and one-half hours even in his later years, showing unusual fervor, strength, and zeal. The Sunday before his death he gave an address at his home church, and although his age showed such ripeness, he was still young in spirit. He had planned to go to the Ministerial Convention held at Emmaus, Pennsylvania during the week of his death, but the Lord willed it otherwise. He contracted a cold which soon developed into pneumonia from which he died after an illness of only three days. He fell asleep in Jesus giving much assurance of the glorious hope to come. He was conscious to the end and knew that he had fought a good "fight of faith." The light of his life which kept flaming against many winds at last died out for want of oil. He will always be remembered as a Father in the church who was much esteemed in the Lord.

William S. Gehman died April 12, 1918 at the age of 91 years, 2 months, 20 days. The funeral was held in Zionsville. Presiding Elder H. B. Musselman officiated, with the assistance of Rev. W. B. Musselman of Cleveland, Ohio (founder and president of the Gospel Workers Society), Rev. A. E. Funk of New York City (special representative of the Christian and Missionary Alliance), Rev. B. F. Bohner (Evangelical Association), and others. Several of the pastors were pall bearers carrying him to his last resting place in the quiet church yard to await the resurrection at the sound of the last trumpet.



Our First Church, Near Zionsville, Pa.

HISTORY

On October 3, 1683, the first group of thirteen Mennonite families arrived in Pennsylvania. They had come from Crefeld, Germany, on the vessel Concord. These immigrants founded a settlement, called it Germantown, and built their first church.

As time went on these settlers moved to other parts of the country and started settlements at Deep Run, Franconia, and other places. The congregations were scattered and unorganized. Each one chose its own minister from among the local members of the congregation. Even though these Mennonites dispersed, they maintained friendly relations. There was no definite organic unity, but there was enough similarity and co-operation to designate them as a separate body. Conferences were held as early as 1727, but these were only for the purpose of consultation.

Rev. John H. Oberholtzer, preacher in the Mennonite Church in Pennsylvania, was excommunicated from the Franconia Conference because he continued to wear his usual dress rather than the prescribed cut for a minister's coat. This breach of custom was not a serious matter to him, but to the other ministers it appeared to be a betrayal of faith. Oberholtzer, other ministers and deacons who held similar views were suspended from church fellowship in October 1847. On October 28, 1847, at Skippack, Montgomery County this group formed a new organization which later came to be known as the General Conference Mennonites. John H. Oberholtzer became their first bishop. Other ministers that left the old Mennonite Church were John Hunsicker, Christian Clemmer, and Joseph Schantz. The church where Oberholtzer was preaching at the time, the Swamp Mennonite Church, stood behind him in the move.

Before long another minister was needed and William S. Gehman was chosen to serve. He had been a German Lutheran, but after his conversion at a prayer meeting, he joined the Mennonites. In 1849 he was chosen by election and by lot to serve as the minister for the Upper Milford congregation. It became customary to alternate ministers, so William S. Gehman and Joseph Schantz alternated, each preaching half the time. These two men and several families of the congregation met together in homes to hold prayer meetings.

From the *History of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church* by J. A. Huffman:

On May 5, 1853, the same year that these meetings were started, the bishops in conference at Skippack granted the privilege of holding prayer meetings. William Gehman talked the matter over with Oberholtzer, who was the main bishop, and explained how the meetings were conducted. Oberholtzer's reply was that 'surely no one could forbid that.' The subject was also discussed with Moses Gottschall, bishop at Schwenksville, who agreed that they were a good thing. With this permission the meetings were continued. The next move came in the year 1856, when a conference was again held at Skippack. Toward the close of the conference Oberholtzer, who was chairman, announced that it was now time to discuss prayer meetings; but since the time was too short to allow it, he wished that Gehman would consent to leave that to a meeting of the bishops on the following day. There being no objection, the

matter was passed over. A few day after this Joseph Schantz, who was a fellow minister of Gehman's at Upper Milford, came to him and brought the decision of the bishops, namely that prayer meetings would not be allowed in the future. Rev. William Gehman, however, refused to accept the report and the meetings were continued.

On May 5, 1858, the names of William S. Gehman, David Henning, William N. Schelly, and others, were ordered to be dropped from the list of ministers. Rev. William S. Gehman having been forbidden to hold prayer meetings felt that he could not worship any longer with this church, so twenty-three other members joined him and organized a church at Zionsville in 1857 known as the Evangelical Mennonites. Some of those with him were David Gehman (deacon), Jacob Musselman, Abraham Kauffman, Sr., Samuel Kauffman, Joseph Stauffer, David Musselman, Josiah W. Stauffer, Abraham Musselman, Jonas Musselman, Abraham Kauffman, Jr., William N. Schelly, and David Henning.

At first this group had services only in their homes. In the summer of 1859 the first church of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church was built at the southeastern edge of a small grove of giant oak trees near Zionsville, Upper Milford Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. The Perkiomen Railroad tracks which pass the whole length of the church and cemetery were laid there in 1875.

The church was known locally as the third church of the Mennonites or "Nummer Drei." This name was given to this church by the older residents and members to distinguish it from the former Mennonite churches from which we separated, namely: the second church of the Mennonites—General Conference Mennonites or "Nummer Zwei"; the first church of the Mennonites—Old Mennonites, Franconia Conference or "Nummer Eins".

It was also called Upper Milford Church because it was situated in that township. This name distinguished it from another preaching appointment in a hall over a store and post office at Hosensack in Lower Milford Township about three miles south of the church. This store was owned and operated by David Gehman, first deacon of the church and secretary of the first conference.

The original plot of ground comprising the church lawn and a large part of the cemetery was donated by Abraham Kauffman. The eastern part of the cemetery was purchased many years later. The contractor, Nathan Stahl, quoted a contract price of \$1,100.00 to build the church. Rev. William S. Gehman found out that Mr. Stahl wasn't making any profit and gave him \$100.00 extra, making the total cost of the church \$1,200.00. The members helped by doing all the hauling. The plain brick building was 36' x 50' and originally had two front doors at the places where there now are windows. The original pews, still in use, have been improved and re-arranged so that there are now three aisles. The middle benches had a partition between them. The women sat on the right side and the men sat on the left side so that they could keep their eyes on the horses in the sheds. Oil lamps on pedestals at each end of the long pulpit and several on wall brackets furnished the light and two large wood stoves furnished the heat in the early days. Some years later the oak grove was cut down and the present maple trees planted. The house adjoining the church yard was built and occupied by the janitor, John Roeder.

The dedication of the Zionsville Church was held on November 12 and 13, 1859.

Kirch=Einweihung.

Die neuerbaute Evangelische Menoniten - Kirche, in Ober - Milford Township, Lecha County, soll dem Herrn geweiht werden, auf Samstag und Sonntags den 12ten und 13ten November, nächstens, wozu alle Freunde des Christenthums in der Nähe und Ferne achtungsvoll eingeladen sind beizuwohnen, um Antheil an dem Gottesdienst zu nehmen. Es werden verschiedene fremde Prediger gegenwärtig sein, und erbauliche Reden halten.

Es ist durchaus verboten Getränke, Eßwaaren oder einigerlei Erfrischungen bei dieser Feierlichkeit anzustellen oder zu verkaufen.

David Gehman,
Jacob Musselman,
David Musselman.

October 26.

aa3m

TRANSLATION of CHURCH DEDICATION

The newly built Evangelical Mennonite Church in Upper Milford Township, Lehigh County shall be dedicated to the Lord on Saturday and Sunday, November 12th and 13th (next); wherein to all friends of Christianity from near and far are respectfully invited to attend in order to take part in the service. Several visiting ministers will be present and will give edifying messages.

It is absolutely forbidden to offer or sell drinks, foodstuffs, or any kind of refreshments at these festivities.

David Gehman
Jacob Musselman
David Musselman

October 26

When the church was built, there were twenty-four members. These included the families of William S. Gehman, David Gehman, Samuel Kauffman, Henry Gehman, David Musselman, Jacob Musselman, and others.

On September 24, 1858, the first conference was held in the home of David Musselman, Upper Milford Township. There were present at this conference two elders—William S. Gehman and William N. Schelly; two preachers—David Henning and Henry Diehl; and three deacons—David Gehman, Joseph Schneider, and Jacob Gottshall. The house where this first conference was held is two hundred years old presently owned by Robert L. Shelly. It is about one mile east of the church at Dillinger Station.



Site of first Conference

A committee, consisting of William S. Gehman, David Henning, Eusebius Hershey and Joseph L. Romig, was appointed to compose a Doctrine of Faith and Church Discipline at the conference held in November 1865. This was published in 1867. This First Church Discipline of the Evangelical Mennonites gives a short account of their history, and in relation to these prayer meetings it records:

Many that attended the meetings became awakened and deeply convicted of their sinful condition, found peace in the wounds of Jesus, and were transplanted into the freedom of the children of God. In order to carry on this work properly, they appointed (Sabbath) Sunday afternoon and evening to be spent with one another in prayer and religious exercises, and prayer meetings to be held once during the week and family worship to be held in every family and also public revival meetings where the Word was for a time preached every evening in purity and power.

Within the walls of this historic church twenty-four sessions of the Pennsylvania Conference were held. Most of these were semi-annual. On November 6, 1879 at a special conference in the Zionsville church at which Solomon Eby of Canada presided, a union was effected with the United Mennonites of Indiana, Ohio and Ontario, Canada. The name was then changed to Evangelical United Mennonites. The Pennsylvania Conference had at this time: nine ministers, nine congregations and four churches. From this time on the conferences were held annually. William S. Gehman was chairman for four sessions until the special conference in Harrisburg, Ohio, December 27, 1883, when this body united with the Brethren in Christ. They adopted the name Mennonite Brethren in Christ. The first General Conference of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church was held in the Zionsville church in 1885.

The blessing of the Lord has been upon the Zionsville church since its humble beginning 100 years ago. In past years a large congregation worshipped here regularly. During the annual revival services held in the late fall the church was usually filled to capacity. People walked for miles from every direction to witness the power and blessing of God.

As was the custom in early days where people travelled by horse and buggy, there was a row of sheds behind the meeting house to protect the horses during bad weather. These were removed when automobiles came into use. Even though the roads were difficult to keep open in the winter, when the time came for prayer meetings, revival meetings, or regular Sunday services, everyone put aside his work and went to church. Some would hitch up the horses to the old spring wagon, others to the top wagon or buckboard, collect a number of other people, travel for miles singing as they came and as they returned. This made an impression on the people along the way and very often brought conviction of sin. In winter they would hitch their horses to sleds, wrap themselves in blankets, and make their way through snow drifts to the church. Even though the farmers had long working days, they very seldom missed evening revival meetings which often lasted for weeks. They were well known as "longa meetings", too.

Old-fashioned shouting in the meetings was not unusual. The benches to the right and left of the pulpit were called the "amen corners." This was true in name and in fact. The singing of songs made the meetings very cheerful. There was no choir, no piano, and no song leader. In 1881 the first church hymn book was published. The hymn books were in German and had no notes. The preaching and singing were both in German.

The people lived plain and simple lives and wore conservative clothing. The women wore their sun bonnets for church and their aprons for prayer meeting. They followed the practice of feet washing which has continued to the present day.

No Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church was fully equipped without some provision being made for baptism. In the earliest days the Zionsville

church used a small creek about two blocks away from the church, which was on the property of Lewis Wieand. The scriptural belief was carried out in this way. Sisters and brothers were buried with Christ in baptism and frequently came up shouting while the rest lined the banks singing hymns of praise and victory. In recent years baptismal services have been held at the Gehman farm near Macungie.

For many years the altar consisted of a large bench (mourner's bench). This was a scene of great rejoicing in those early days and the place where large numbers met their Saviour for the first time. What wonderful times they were and how the Holy Spirit poured out His blessings! After services the members would pray for the unsaved at the mourner's bench.

Originally painted on the wall over the pulpit in large German letters were the words, "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it," Luke 11:28.

It was more than twenty years before the Pennsylvania Conference held the first Camp Meeting. In August 1879, the congregations of Zionsville (then called Upper Milford), Fleetwood, Coopersburg, Springtown, and Quakertown held several "Grove Meetings" at Chestnut Hill near Limeport. These services were so well attended that by the following summer several families made and erected canvas tents of their own. A small temporary pulpit was erected. Behind it accommodations were provided for guest preachers. Seats were made of rough unplanned hemlock boards without backs. A large tent 40' x 60' and several hundred camp stools were purchased to be used on rainy days. As many as thirty tents were soon erected.

Thus began the annual Chestnut Hill Camp Meeting. Even in those horse and buggy days people came from miles away. As many as five hundred vehicles of every description were reported to be parked along the road and in the fields. These gatherings soon became well known far and near. Ministers from Ohio, Indiana, Canada and New York City were among the guest speakers.

From the very beginning the water supply was a serious problem. One of the neighboring farmers hauled water to the camp in barrels. Then the camp meeting committee composed of laymen tried to dig a well. After digging seventy feet with no signs of water, the project was abandoned. For eighteen years all the water for cooking and drinking for thirty families had to be hauled.

No cafeteria or provision store was allowed in the grove for all those years. There were no refrigerators and no ice. Since the tents had no floors, some buried a box in the ground in a corner of the tent to keep the butter and milk. A butcher and a baker came into the grove a few times a week. For a stove some families used the top of an old cook stove or range and built a fire under it.

Nearly all the campers of those pioneer camp meetings were farmers. Some of them went home every day to do the milking and feeding. Some

of the women had to go home every day to do some baking and bring provisions back to camp. Since there were no restaurants within two miles of the camp, visitors for a whole day had to bring their lunch along. Preachers and visitors from a distance were always entertained alternately by the generous hospitality of the Pennsylvania German campers. Such were the "good old days" of our early camp meetings.

Since 1892 the Pennsylvania Conference had held camp meetings at twenty-five other places. In 1910 the Executive Board of the Conference purchased a wild undeveloped tract of woodland in Allentown and held its first camp meeting in it that same year. This camp was named Mizpah Grove. From 1917 to 1941 the Pennsylvania Conference had two sites for camp meetings—Mizpah Grove and a grove at Shamokin, Pennsylvania. Both camp meetings were discontinued after 1941 because of the war. Camp Meeting was resumed again in 1946 only at Mizpah Grove where it has been held every year since.

At the rear of the Zionsville church is a beautiful, well-kept cemetery—the first cemetery of the denomination. The care of it has seen changes from the scythe to the hand operated lawn mowers to the present power driven lawn mowers purchased in 1947. The trimming once done by hand is now done by an electric trimmer. We are thankful for the members who have worked untiringly to keep it in good condition.

There are about 218 graves including many of the early pilgrims and saints. This number includes eight pastors of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Conference of Pennsylvania: Elder Abraham Kauffman, July 1840-November 1889; Rev. A. B. Gehret, January 1867-June 1898; Elder William S. Gehman, January 1827-April 1918; Elder William G. Gehman, September 1874-November 1941; Rev. Charles H. Brunner, January 1864-November 1948; Rev. Herbert W. Hartman, March 1904-September 1957; Rev. Edgar T. Shick, August 1870-September 1958 and Rev. Joseph L. Romig, March 1837-January 1869. Here they await the sounding of the last trump when they shall rise to meet their Lord and be forever with Him. The first person to be buried here was Abraham Kauffman in November 1889. The oldest person buried here is David Musselman, who was buried in 1903 at the age of 96 years, 7 months, 12 days.

In earlier years arrangements were made with the railroad station agent for the train to bring the funeral procession to the church. After the funeral, arrangements were made with a returning train to stop for the people returning home. One of the last funeral procession which came by train was for Mrs. Emma T. Gehman in 1909. She was the wife of Elder William G. Gehman.

The cemetery is the scene of Easter Dawn services since 1952. The sun rising over the hill and the picturesque view of valleys and mountains make this an appropriate spot for such a service.



“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”
Psalm 116:15

Because of the changes in time, many people moved away to nearby towns, cities, and states. This left the church with a small membership. In 1920 the prayer meetings were changed from the homes to the church. In 1920 Zionsville joined the circuit with Emmaus and Macungie. Sunday School, Morning Worship, and Prayer Meeting were still held regularly during the summer and winter. Even though few in number God has blessed through the years.

On Sunday, September 7, 1930, the Zionsville church had a Home Coming Day. People came from Emmaus, Macungie, Bethlehem, Allentown, Easton, Coopersburg, Reading, Royersford, Philadelphia and many other places. Among the speakers for the day were Rev. G. F. Yost, pastor of the church, Rev. C. H. Brunner, and Elder William G. Gehman. Mrs. Amanda Wieand, the oldest member of the church, gave her testimony. Many people came to the meetings especially in the afternoon when about half of the people had to stand outside of the church and hear the service through a public address system.

On Sunday, September 10, 1933, the Zionsville church held their 74th Anniversary Program. People came from near and far to attend the services. The speakers for the day were Rev. G. F. Yost, pastor of the church, and Elder H. B. Musselman. Prizes were given for the following: youngest—June N. Heist; oldest—Mrs. Amanda Wieand; person coming the farthest distance—The Ummel's from Elkhart, Indiana. As in 1930, Home Coming Day, there was a public address system used for the overflow crowd.

Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Hartman, on a venture of faith, held the first Bible Club on September 23, 1952. The attendance was very good. Since then the Bible Club has continued every other Tuesday evening, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. through the school months. The present leaders are Thelma Heist, Gloria Weaver and Mrs. Loretta Heist.

In earlier days weddings were held only at the pastor's home. In recent

years, weddings have taken place at the pastor's home and in the church. There were two weddings held in the Zionsville M. B. in C. Church: Rev. F. B. Hertzog united Frieda H. Shelly and Paul Howerter on March 20, 1958; Rev. W. W. Hartman united Mae H. Shelly and J. Philip Geissinger on September 26, 1953.



Before

As the years have passed many repairs and improvements have been made on the church. The church hymns were started by a designated member until 1947 when the present piano was put in the church. The heating originally pipeless, was changed to an oil fired hot air heater in 1953. The original red brick structure took on a new appearance in 1954 when it was brick coated in white. In 1956 several members of the church made repairs on the roof, and put a small room in the basement for the mothers. A public address system was added for the convenience of the mothers. In 1958 the members varnished the century-old floor boards to preserve them. New carpet was installed to help beautify the church.



After

In October 1958, when the last conference session was held, the circuit appointment of Emmaus, Macungie, and Zionsville was divided. This gave the people of Zionsville a new zeal for the work of the Lord. After going to the Emmaus church for Sunday evening services for thirty-eight years, the people of Zionsville again opened their church doors on October 19, 1958. Rev. Paul E. Baer, supply pastor, preached at this service. There were fifty-four people present for that service. The Lord blessed and gave the people encouragement to go on in His work.

Even though the membership is only 43, the attendance in the services has been very good. There have been as many as 75 people in the evening meetings. The church was founded because of a dispute over the issue of the prayer meetings. Today the prayer meeting is still one of the main services of the week. The average attendance of these meetings is thirty. In 1958 a Menno Youth organization was started.

The Sixty-eighth Annual Ministerial Convention of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church of Pennsylvania convened in the Zionsville Church, Zionsville, Pennsylvania on April 10, 1959. This day was the 100th day of the 100th Anniversary year, 1959. The evening service was opened to the public. Rev. C. E. Kirkwood was in charge of the service and the speaker of the evening was Rev. F. B. Hertzog, former pastor of the church.

In 1952 the Pennsylvania Conference, by vote, withdrew from the United Missionary Church (Western States and Canada). On February 22, 1959 the churches of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church Pennsylvania Conference voted on a choice of two church names. On April 11, 1959 the Annual Conference at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania adopted the new name "Bible Fellowship Church". Rev. F. B. Hertzog (District Superintendent) as Chairman said, "Delegates to the conference based their choice of a new name on the concepts that the Bible should be their sole authority in matters of faith and conduct; that fellowship of the believers is one of their greatest joys and blessings; and that the organization shall be dedicated as a church to bearing testimony to the Gospel". The new name was then given to the Board of Directors to take the proper steps to change the name from "Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church" to "Bible Fellowship Church". The change of name became effective June, 1959.

The present pastor, Roy A. Hertzog, preached his first sermon at Zionsville on April 19, 1959. He is the son of a former pastor Rev. F. B. Hertzog. He was graduated from Columbia Bible College, Columbia, South Carolina. His ministry is greatly appreciated and God's hand is upon him. On July 18, 1959 Roy A. Hertzog was united in marriage to Miss Diane Studer at the First Alliance Church, Atlanta, Georgia. Pastor and Mrs. Hertzog will be leaving, as missionaries, for Tangier, Morocco, Africa sometime in January, 1960. They will be working with "The Voice of Tangiers", a missionary radio station.

A visitation program was started by the pastor and a visitation committee was appointed consisting of Ray H. Shelly, Thelma N. Heist, Gloria Weaver and Pastor Roy A. Hertzog.

TRUSTING JESUS

Simply trusting every day,
Trusting through a stormy way;
Even when my faith is small,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Brightly doth His Spirit shine
Into this poor heart of mine;
While He leads I cannot fall;
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Singing if my way is clear;
Praying if the path be drear;
If in danger, for Him call
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Trusting Him while life shall last,
Trusting Him till earth be past;
Till within the jasper wall:
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him what e'er befall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

E. Page

FORMER PASTORS
and
YEARS THEY SERVED

1858-1874	
1875-1877	
1878-1880	Wm. S. Gehman
1892-1894	
1895-1897	
1874-1875	
1880-1882	Abraham Kauffman
1886-1887	
1877-1878	
1884-1886	Abel Strawn
1882-1884	Jonas Musselman
1887-1890	M. D. Haws
1890-1892	J. A. Moyer
1894-1895	L. B. Taylor
1897-1898	A. B. Gehret
1898-1900	J. E. Fidler
1899-1900	F. E. Frey
1900-1902	J. G. Shireman
1902-1905	E. N. Cassel
1905-1908	
1914-1920	O. S. Hillegas
1908-1911	W. W. Zimmerman
1911-1914	R. Bergstresser
1920-1923	J. C. Roth
1923-1933	G. F. Yost
1933-1942	C. H. Brunner
1942-1951	F. B. Hertzog
1951-1958	W. W. Hartman
1958-1959	Paul E. Baer
1959	Roy A. Hertzog

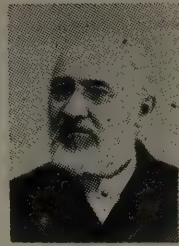
PASTORS OF THE ZIONSVILLE CHURCH
1859 1959



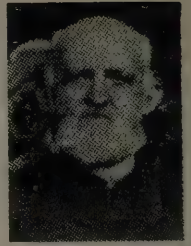
Wm. S.
Gehman



Abraham
Kauffman



Abel Strawn



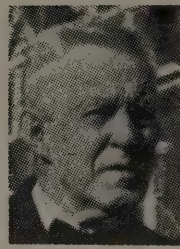
L. B. Taylor



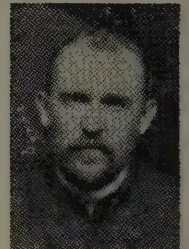
A. B. Gehret



J. E. Fidler



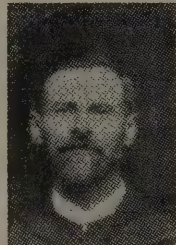
F. E. Frey



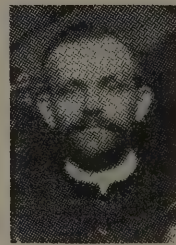
J. G. Shireman



E. N. Cassel



O. S. Hillegas



W. W.
Zimmerman



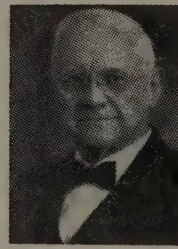
R. Bergstresser



J. C. Roth



G. F. Yost



C. H. Brunner



F. B. Hertzog



W. W. Hartman



Paul Baer

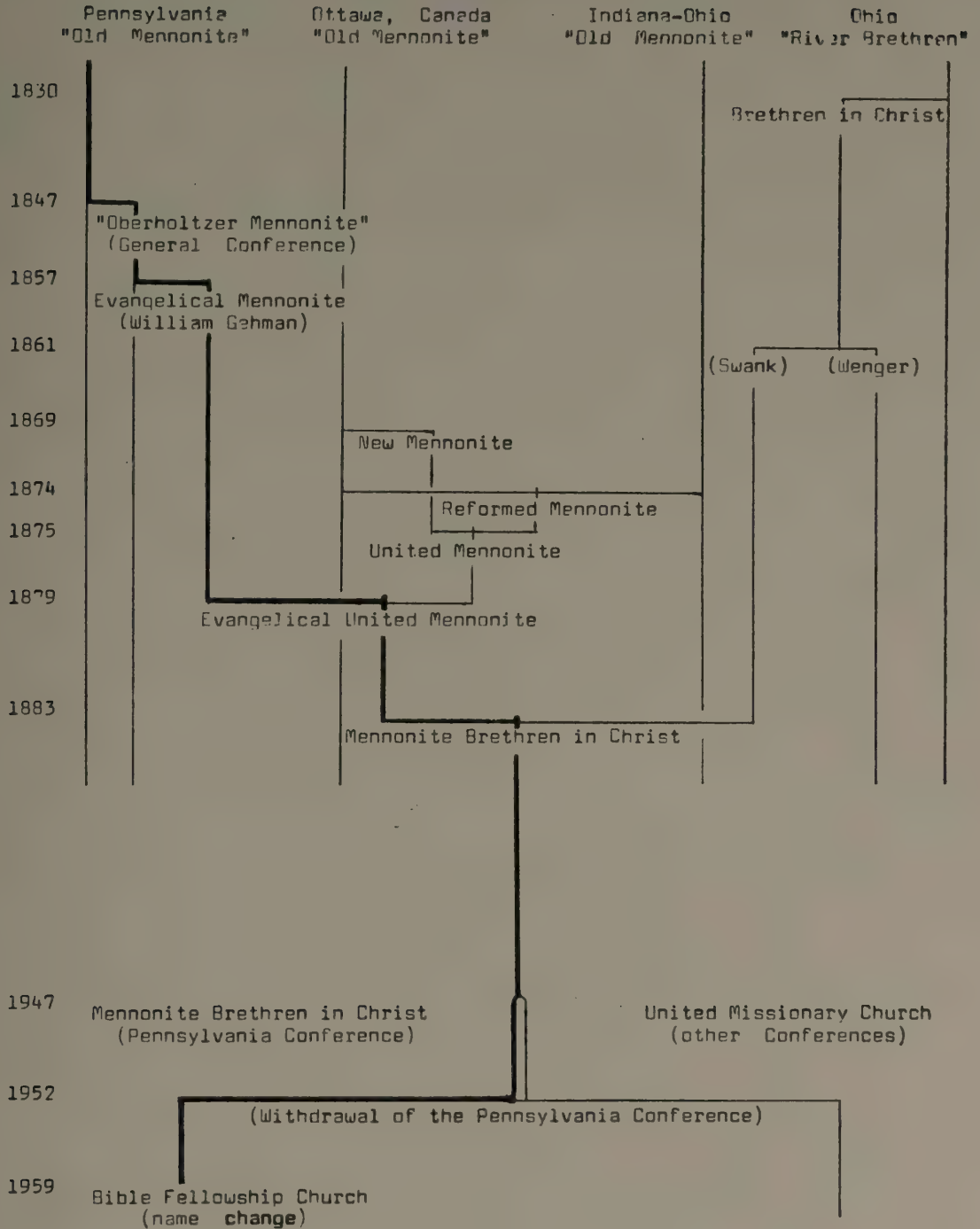


Roy A. Hertzog

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

and

UNITED MISSIONARY CHURCH



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School was organized in 1875 and has been a great source of help to both young and old. The main purpose of the Sunday School has been to study the Bible. Most of the teaching was done in German. Originally no lesson helps were used, but later lesson helps written by Jonas Schultz and the "Himmels' Manna" (a German religious weekly, published by John Stauffer at Quakertown), and Union Gospel Press materials have been of great help to the teachers. The average attendance of the Sunday School through the years has been seventy-two. This is the average attendance today. The superintendents of the Sunday School include: Joel M. Brunner, Allen Gehman, F. M. Gehman (served twelve years), Charles Wieand, Charles Kauffman, Morris Stickler, Oliver Kufen, Russell L. Shelly (served thirty-three years) and Ray H. Shelly (served from 1954 to the present).

There are eight Sunday School classes, all but two, held in the main auditorium. The primary class is held in the primary room in the rear of the church. The Young Peoples Class (boys) is held in the basement of the church.

An event of each year that the children look forward to, is the Sunday School picnic. The site of the picnics usually took place at Milford Park Camp Grove. On July 8, 1959 the Zionsville church held their first picnic, since the circuit was divided, at Victory Valley (boys and girls camp of the Bible Fellowship Church).

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

Ray H. Shelly, Supt.
George H. Shelly, Vice Supt.
Nevin H. Shelly, Secretary
John L. Shelly, Treasurer

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Ida Brunner
Mrs. Lorraine Shelly
Mrs. Lucille Weaver
Thelma N. Heist
Cora Brunner
Charles G. Hersh
Floyd N. Heist
Ray H. Shelly

LIBRARIAN

Andrea Beltz

PIANISTS

Gloria Weaver
Mrs. Constance Shelly

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Church Membership</i>	<i>S. School Membership</i>	<i>Home Missions</i>	<i>Foreign Missions</i>	<i>Total Offerings</i>
1896	Wm. Gehman	75	65	\$115.74	\$ 53.18	\$ 536.01
1897	Wm. Gehman, A. B. Gehret	79	65	105.35	56.77	531.35
1898	A. B. Gehret, J. E. Fidler	89	58	91.80	169.94	946.74
1899	J. E. Fidler	83	66	100.01	123.74	972.06
1900	J. E. Fidler, F. E. Frey					
1901	J. G. Shireman	69	54	112.15	321.95	1,448.19
1902	J. G. Shireman	97	75	89.35	209.88	1,802.08
1903	J. G. Shireman, E. N. Cassel	65	77	81.50	281.35	1,925.62
1904	E. N. Cassel	65	86	105.05	289.47	1,925.62
1905	E. N. Cassel	65	81	103.83	356.94	1,291.81
1906	E. N. Cassel, O. S. Hillegas	58	77	92.30	361.01	1,262.63
1907	O. S. Hillegas	64	87	95.85	515.31	2,301.12
1908	O. S. Hillegas	62	97	85.88	349.63	1,177.47
1909	O. S. Hillegas, W. W. Zimmerman	67	97	100.50	324.80	1,531.39
1910	W. W. Zimmerman	64	90	130.00	301.76	1,705.94
1911	W. W. Zimmerman	68	92	112.50	302.72	1,902.96
1912	W. W. Zimmerman, R. Bergstresser	63	87	115.00	281.93	1,579.00
1913	R. Bergstresser	66	84	112.85	274.11	1,269.63
1914	R. Bergstresser	64	88	102.75	274.68	1,327.35
1915	R. Bergstresser, O. S. Hillegas	61	89	131.70	290.47	1,335.23
1916	O. S. Hillegas	71	85	131.70	258.08	1,249.19
1917	O. S. Hillegas	64	94	112.85	265.94	1,169.42
1918	O. S. Hillegas	53	84	137.85	320.93	1,977.70
1919	O. S. Hillegas	56	72	143.20	299.90	1,585.95
1920	O. S. Hillegas	61	76	138.70	356.35	1,816.97
1921	O. S. Hillegas, J. C. Roth	57	78	173.85	482.67	1,781.34
1922	J. C. Roth	41	84	304.25	490.14	2,860.85
1923	J. C. Roth, G. F. Yost	39	67	246.75	426.64	1,767.45
1924	G. F. Yost	38	53	308.00	520.61	1,665.45
1925	G. F. Yost	41	54	\$323.00	538.71	\$1,891.39
1926	G. F. Yost	42	59	363.00	548.35	1,766.30
		42	66	439.00	612.20	1,942.80

Year	Pastor	Church Membership	S. School Membership	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Total Offerings
1927	G. F. Yost	42	57	399.75	631.50	1,936.51
1928	G. F. Yost	41	53	357.00	563.70	1,645.43
1929	G. F. Yost	40	49	310.25	560.83	1,587.51
1930	G. F. Yost	41	68	301.50	518.07	1,612.13
1931	G. F. Yost	37	81	228.00	494.95	1,884.81
1932	G. F. Yost	37	97	196.50	409.51	1,375.03
1933	G. F. Yost, C. H. Brunner	37	103	192.00	308.65	1,091.30
1934	C. H. Brunner	40	107	213.00	391.00	1,456.52
1935	C. H. Brunner	38	99	208.50	423.75	1,528.50
1936	C. H. Brunner	38	76	211.00	424.00	1,470.85
1937	C. H. Brunner	39	62	222.50	405.50	2,228.81
1938	C. H. Brunner	37	64	194.50	353.50	2,039.68
1939	C. H. Brunner	35	59	191.00	392.00	1,596.98
1940	C. H. Brunner	34	49	203.00	536.75	1,598.55
1941	C. H. Brunner	33	52	222.00	403.00	1,577.40
1942	C. H. Brunner, F. B. Hertzog	34	56	227.00	437.00	1,687.66
1943	F. B. Hertzog	33	51	290.00	627.00	1,872.08
1944	F. B. Hertzog	34	58	324.00	639.00	2,164.26
1945	F. B. Hertzog	32	49	339.00	726.50	2,148.73
1946	F. B. Hertzog	32	45	315.00	730.00	2,243.94
1947	F. B. Hertzog	32	48	393.50	773.50	2,536.75
1948	F. B. Hertzog	32	54	445.50	857.50	2,872.11
1949	F. B. Hertzog	32	55	493.50	1,081.55	3,675.82
1950	F. B. Hertzog	32	63	484.00	1,010.00	3,423.78
1951	F. B. Hertzog, W. W. Hartman	30	61	\$520.50	\$1,132.50	\$3,658.83
1952	W. W. Hartman	35	61	523.00	1,314.70	4,310.20
1953	W. W. Hartman	37	82	559.00	1,432.85	5,117.08
1954	W. W. Hartman	36	77	575.00	1,351.50	4,484.55
1955	W. W. Hartman	36	66	502.00	1,378.07	4,178.08
1956	W. W. Hartman	39	62	562.00	1,396.00	6,690.33
1957	W. W. Hartman	39	63	487.00	1,347.97	4,568.53
1958	W. W. Hartman, Paul E. Baer	43	70	518.00	1,320.31	4,739.86
1959	Paul E. Baer, Roy A. Hertzog					

“GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL”

This church has taken full interest in missions. This church helped to support the first M.B.C. missionary, Rev. Eusebius Hershey, who sailed on November 1, 1890 for Liberia, Africa where he gave his life to mission work. He died on May 23, 1891 from malaria fever in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa. His going as a missionary however, was not in vain. It is said he influenced some twenty young people to go to the foreign field.

Some of the other early pioneers that Zionsville helped to support were: Miss Rose Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Weiss, C. F. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Fidler, who was the pastor at Zionsville 1898-1900. The members have always taken a keen interest in missions with their prayers and financial help. The total missionary offerings from 1896 to 1958 are \$34,632.82. Missionary offerings per year average \$558.27, which is \$11.16 per member. During the last ten years missionary giving has averaged yearly \$1,276.54, or \$35.46 per member.

In 1952 the Conference decided to let the different churches take on the support of a missionary. The members of the Zionsville Mennonite Brethren in Christ church decided to take on the support of Edna Pridham. Although the average membership in these last seven years has only been 38, God has blessed and the obligation has been met.

On May 4, 1955 the Women's Missionary Society was started. This organization helps supply the missionaries with some of the provisions that are needed in their work.

After Miss Pridman had several mishaps on her motorbike causing a broken arm each time and curtailed her missionary work, the Zionsville members felt that if they could buy her a car, she would be safer, could reach more souls and cover more territory for the Glory of God. In 1956 the members of the Zionsville Church showed their desire to serve the Lord through missionary giving by buying an automobile for her.

Mrs. Rose Lambert Musselman, a former missionary, has recently written from Inez, Texas:

I shall always be grateful to our Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church, the Zionsville friends and relatives who were so kind and helpful to me and for their support during the nearly twelve years the good Lord permitted me to help the needy, the orphans and widows of one of the oldest Christian nations on earth, the Armenians, who were conquered by the Mohammedans and persecuted and many massacred during over 500 years of their reign. Our orphans that survived the massacre are noble and respected Christian men and women who never forget what we did for them and take time to write and express their undying gratitude.



Rose Lambert Musselman

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Amen.

Matthew 28:19, 20

MISS EDNA PRIDHAM

Nigeria, West Africa



Teaching Them . . . Matthew 28:30.

Thy Word giveth light . . . Psalm 119:130.

With pending self-government it is almost impossible to over-emphasize the importance of Nigeria in this moment of History for the whole of Africa.

The challenging cry comes from every Nigeria town, hamlet and village, "let us be taught". My heart has been thrilled with the limitless opportunities and privilege that God has given me as part of the Great Commission in "TEACHING" those who are hungry for the Light and Life that His Word alone can give.

"Teaching them", in the Bible School during my second and third term gave me much joy and blessing. Surely such work is the gateway to a rich and fruitful ministry, for through this gateway men go out to touch every phase of African life. Through them the proud Mohammedan, whose flowing robes swish to his walk hears the message of the Living Christ. The nomadic people, Fulanis with their distinctive, fine features, light skin and long braided hair can be contacted for Christ. Women in the fresh bloom of girlhood or in parchment-skin old age hear of the Great Burden Bearer. Men bound by sin and Satan hear the message of Redemption and Hope. Little children also hear the old, old story of His love.

Organizing classes for the women in the villages and “teaching them” was a real test to my courage and consecration. The class room which was often the shade of a giant baobab tree, a grass thatched shelter or a well built school room taught me new lessons in patience and perseverance. I have the highest respect for that noble band of women who desired to be taught and who despite a squirming or a crying baby memorized long passages from the Word as well as learning to read the Bible for themselves. Many of them are now able to teach others and are helping to carry on the classes. The Lord bless them everyone.

In the beginning of 1958 the Lord opened another “effectual door” of service. I was asked to organize Christian Life classes in all of our Jr. and Sr. Primary Day Schools. I sincerely praise the Lord for His help and guidance. I have had some precious experiences “teaching them” in these classes. My heart has been humbled as the Precious Holy Spirit has worked in tender hearts. Many boys and girls have responded and have found gracious forgiveness. Some have witnessed to their parents and as a result they have started attending church. Others have been severely beaten for their witness of Christ. How much they need our prayers. Teachers have written of the change in the lives of their pupils. Indeed this makes our hearts rejoice as we think of the potential of these precious lives in the future of Nigeria.

This year I have been given two part time assistants and we hope to be able to accept more of the many invitations that have come to us from Government and other schools outside our area.

I am indeed greatly indebted and deeply grateful to God and to you of the Zionsville M.B.C. church for your mutual interest, for your financial and faithful prayer support. Also for the car that you made sacrifice to give me, that has made the way easier and this wider ministry possible.

I extend my sincere personal greetings to you all and pray God’s richest blessing on you as you celebrate the 100th anniversary and founding of the Church.

CHURCH OFFICERS



L. to R. First Row — Mrs. Constance Shelly, Thelma N. Heist, Mrs. Cecilia Shelly.
L. to R. Second Row — Russell L. Shelly, Pastor, Roy A. Hertzog, Floyd N. Heist, Rev. C. E. Kirkwood, John L. Shelly, Ronald A. Weaver, Bright N. Heist.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

District Superintendent	C. E. Kirkwood
Pastor	Roy A. Hertzog
Class Leader	Russell L. Shelly
Steward	Mrs. Constance Shelly
Building Fund Collector	Thelma N. Heist
Trustees	Floyd N. Heist, President Bright N. Heist, Secretary John L. Shelly, Treasurer
Menno Youth	Ronald A. Weaver, President Aaron Beltz, Vice Pres. Thelma N. Heist, Secretary Charles G. Hersh, Treasurer
Women's Missionary Society	Mrs. Cecilia Shelly, President Mrs. Sarah Shelly, Vice Pres. Thelma N. Heist, Secretary Ida Brunner, Treasurer
Song Leader	Charles G. Hersh
Pianists	Mrs. Constance Shelly, Gloria Weaver
Sextons	Mr. and Mrs. John L. Shelly
Cemetery Caretakers	Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Hersh Thelma N. Heist

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS



L. to R. First Row — Mrs. Lorraine Shelly, Mrs. Lucille Weaver, Mrs. Constance Shelly, Ida Brunner.

L. to R. Second Row — Cora Brunner, Andrea Beltz, Thelma N. Heist.

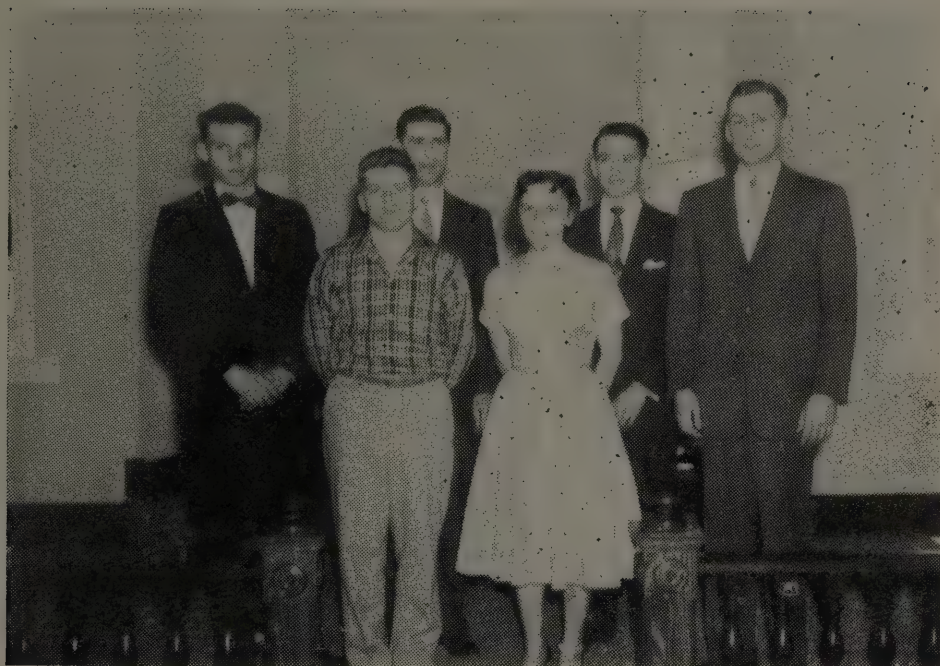
L. to R. Third Row — Nevin H. Shelly, George H. Shelly, John L. Shelly, Floyd N. Heist, Charles G. Hersh, Ray H. Shelly.

WOMENS MISSIONARY SOCIETY



L. to R. — Ida Brunner, Mrs. Sarah Shelly, Mrs. Cecilia Shelly, Thelma N. Heist.

MENNO YOUTH



L. to R. First Row — Aaron Beltz, Thelma N. Heist.
L. to R. Second Row — Ronald Weaver, Pastor Roy A. Hertzog,
Bright N. Heist, Charles G. Hersh.

BIBLE CLUBS



Workers — Last Row — Carol Ann Heist, Thelma N. Heist, Mrs.
Loretta Heist, Gloria Weaver.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23rd

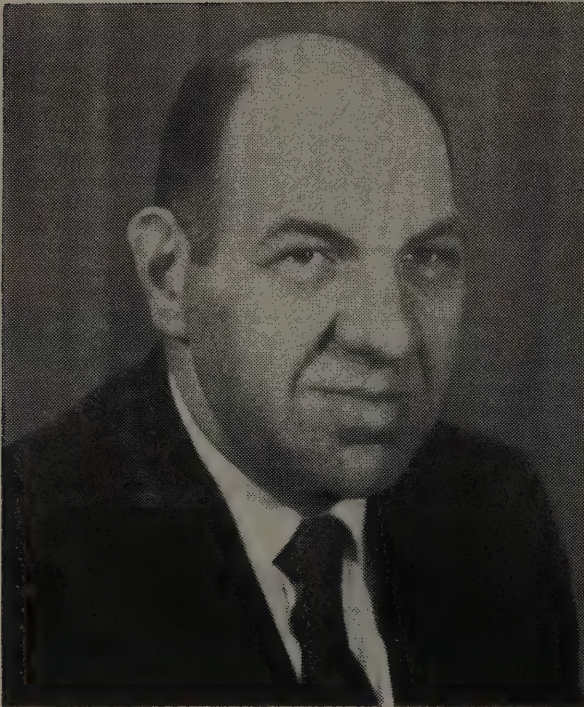
7:30 p.m.

REV. PAUL E. BAER

Easton, Pa.

Former Supply Pastor

October 1958-April 1959



TUESDAY, AUGUST 25th

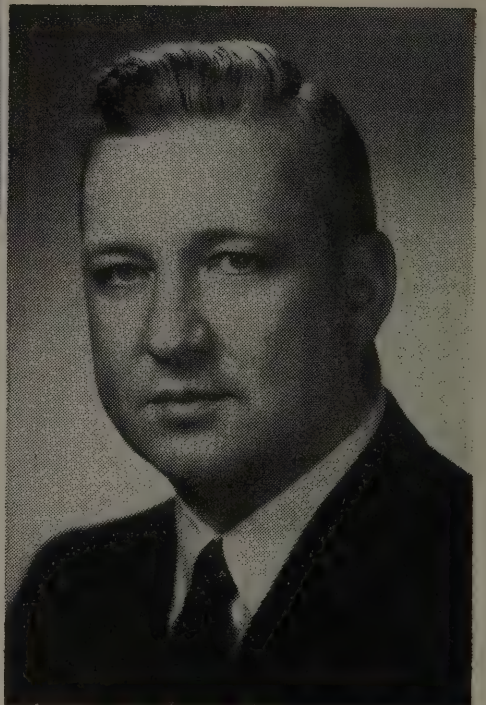
7:30 p.m.

REV. C. E. KIRKWOOD

Bethlehem, Pa.

Dist. Supt.

Bethlehem District



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th

7:30 p.m.

REV. JANSEN HARTMAN

Allentown, Pa.

President

Berean Bible School

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27th
7:30 p.m.

REV. F. B. HERTZOG
Allentown, Pa.

Former Pastor 1942 - 1951
Now District Supt.
Allentown District



FRIDAY, AUGUST 29th
7:30 p.m.

REV. CARL C. CASSEL
Coopersburg, Pa.

Pastor
Second Oldest Church
of
Conference

Grandson of former
Pastor E. N. Cassel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30th
7:30 p.m.

REV. W. W. HARTMAN
Emmaus, Pa.

Former Pastor 1951 - 1958
Emmaus Male Quartet



PASTOR AND MRS. ROY A HERTZOG



SUNDAY, AUGUST 30th

7:30 p.m.

Present Pastor

Roy A. Hertzog

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30th

10:00 a.m.

SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICES

Robert Entler

Chalk Artist

11:00 a.m.

Pastor Roy A. Hertzog

REGULAR SERVICES

Lord's Day

Sunday School	10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
Evening Evangelistic	7:30 P.M.

OTHER SERVICES

Tuesday Prayermeeting	8:00 P.M.
Menno Youth — 2nd and 4th Saturday of month	7:30 P.M.
Women's Missionary Society — 1st Wednesday of month	8:00 P.M.
Bible Club — every other Tuesday of school months	6:30 P.M.

MEMORIES

Albert Hassler — recollects the singing which was all German. They had a pitch pipe that was shaped like a Y. They tapped it against their teeth and then held it to their ear to hear the pitch. He also remembers some of the persecutions of that day. Father Gehman wore a stitch hat or a top hat which was usual for those days. They were put on the bench upside down and some of the critics of the day filled it with rotten tomatoes which were packed down. While he was preaching, indigo was sprayed on him through the window. Remembers Gehman riding to Coopersburg and Quakertown from Zionsville.

Ed Wieand — remembers the “Longa” meetings or Revival Services which lasted four or five weeks. At the close of the services everyone went up to the altar to pray for the unsaved. There was one prayer after another offered for the unsaved. He remembers sitting in four nights of meetings waiting for someone to ask him to the altar. All the while they were praying for him as a sinner. In those days they prayed instead of talking. After hearing all these prayers being offered on his behalf he gave in and confessed his sins. He said he felt so relieved and happy that he went around and kissed his brothers in Christ. He was baptized on a cold fall day in a creek below the church.

Wilson Wieand — remembers the church without the offset for the pulpit and the bible verse across the front which was in German. Luke 11:28. He also remembers the blessed times they had going to Chestnut Hill Camp Meeting.

Bernetta Frey Wieand — remembers a member of the church that had trouble staying awake. She asked the preacher, Rev. Frey, to do anything to keep her awake. The time she fell asleep Rev. Frey threw a book at her.

Morris Stickler — remembers that Father Gehman would keep the Conference in session for three or four days if he thought there was a need for important business to be acted upon. Someone that was a member sold a horse whip on a Sunday and was put on probation. A load of people were brought to Sunday School on a spring wagon. Remembers the healing ministry of Rev. W. W. Zimmerman. Many people were saved through this.

Mrs. Arsula Heist Stengele — remembers Father Gehman coming home and telling them about the times when he had meetings which were held in the horse sheds. People not believing the truth which he preached, threw rotten tomatoes at him.

Mrs. Rosa Mohr Schaeffer — remembers Allen Gehman, Sunday School Superintendent, keeping time to the singing by tapping his foot. Louis Wieand, as class leader. She was saved under Rev. Gehman’s ministry.

Charles J. Kline — remembers when the church was so full that the small boys, of which he was one, were sitting on the altar bench. The horses were tied to all the hitching posts and all the trees that were available. When the services were over, as the people started for home in different directions, they started to sing praises to God that resounded throughout the whole valley.

Rose Lambert Musselman — tells us she will never forget how that when Father Gehman prayed God’s blessings “upon the children, their children’s children and the generation to come,” that included you and me. Prayers stored up in heaven for us before we were born. Are we worthy of such ancestors? I think I knew everyone in the community and to me, they seemed

like a large family who so faithfully met at this church to worship together, the Lord whom they loved and served. May we be as loyal to our dear Saviour as they were, for they left us a good example that we should follow in their steps and as the apostle Paul said, "Follow me as I follow Christ." Some day and for some of us not too far hence, we will again be reunited to sing His praises. Remember, "In such an hour as ye think not, the son of man cometh."

John Shelly — remembers when he was young, they practiced for a Christmas program with singing and recitation. They practiced at Rev. Fidler's home instead of the church. After they did their practicing and were ready for the program the older people objected thinking it was wrong. One year at Christmas time the treasurer didn't have money for Christmas candy for the children. The children received their candy because of contributions of the members.

Sarah C. Brunner — remembers that when she was six years old in 1882 the church wall, facing the cemetery, was straight. The alcove was built in later (lca. 1883). On both sides of the pulpit were pillars on which the lights, about two feet tall with straight chimneys about one and one half inches wide, were placed. This gave illumination for the minister to read the Bible. The lights in the church ceiling were extended to be pulled up and down for convenience.

A wooden bench served as an altar where penitent sinners and their Saviour met.

The church had two isles. Benches were on both sides against the wall. Each side had a pot bellied stove to heat the church. The middle benches had a partition as high as the backs of the benches. The women sat on the right side and the men on the left side. This way they could see if anything would happen to the horses in the sheds.

She remembers Eusebius Hershey, a traveling minister, who traveled on horseback through Canada and the United States, even to the Indian tribes of the West. Rev. Hershey went to Africa in 1890 where he died the following year and was buried on African soil, the first M.B.C. missionary. *Herbert E. Gehman* — remembers as a boy, his parents bringing him from Coopersburg to Zionsville for conferences and eating at Francis Gehman and Abraham Musselman's home, who were members of the church. This was the custom in the early days.

Mrs. Lulu Wismer — remembers walking to church in deep snow. They would warm themselves at the pot bellied stove when they came to church and before leaving for home. She also remembers her father preaching in German and her mother, Mrs. E. N. Cassel, as the Sunday School teacher of the Primary class.

Mrs. Cecilia Shelly — remembers when anyone would sit in the back of the church, you were called a backslider. If you sat there for a few times there would be a sermon directed to you. She remembers that a ribbon on a hat had to be a small one and was worldly to have a big one on a hat; also the dresses worn were plain and could not have any kind of a low neckline.

Russell L. Shelly — As we approach the 100th Anniversary of our M. B. in C. Church at Zionsville, we pause to do honor to the faith, and fervor of our forefathers and mothers who passed on to their eternal reward. Their lives have been and still are an inspiration to us who remain to follow in the footsteps and faith of our Lord and Savior.

Anniversary Notes

PATRON LIST

Allentown Youth for Christ	Mrs. Dorothy Brunner Hartman
Rev. and Mrs. Paul Baer	Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Hartman
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Beltz	Rev. and Mrs. Ernest B. Hartman
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Beltz and family	Rev. and Mrs. Jansen E. Hartman
Bethlehem Bible Fellowship Church	Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Hartman
Missionary Society	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hassler
Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Bieber	Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hassler
Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Bray	Memory of Mrs. Anna S. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Brensinger	Mr. and Mrs. Bright N. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. J. Gordon Brensinger and family	Carol Ann Heist
Lloyd Brensinger	Carroll Heist
Warren S. Brobst	Douglas Ray Heist
Alice Brunner	Duane D. Heist
Cora Brunner	Mr. and Mrs. Duane N. Heist and family
Ida Brunner	Dwight Lee Heist
Sarah G. Brunner	Eileen Ellen Heist
Sylvia Brunner	Mrs. Elmira S. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brunner and family	Mr. and Mrs. Floyd N. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Buchin	Harry David Heist
Rev. and Mrs. Carl C. Cassel	Mr. and Mrs. Horace N. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. H. Alton Cassel	Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Heist
Rev. and Mrs. Willard E. Cassel	Thelma N. Heist
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Cope	Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Henry
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Cressman	Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Hersh and family
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Cressman	Rev. and Mrs. F. B. Hertzog
Rev. and Mrs. Norman M. Cressman	Pastor and Mrs. Roy A. Hertzog
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dickert	Mr. and Mrs. Kyron Hilbert
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dreisbach	Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Hillegass
Mae L. Dreisbach	A. R. Hoch's Texaco Service
Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Dreisbach and Barbara	Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Hottel
Mr. and Mrs. Leon J. Dries and family	Mr. and Mrs. Harvey W. Hottel
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Entler	Mr. and Mrs. Charles Houseknecht
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ettinger	Arthur P. Houser, Inc.
Farmers National Bank of Pennsburg	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Howerter
Rev. and Mrs. Walter Frank	Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hutchinson
Fretz and Fretz	Mr. and Mrs. Clarence L. Kauffman
Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Frey	Edgar F. Kauffman
A Friend	Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Kauffman and family
Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Fritz	Charles J. Kline
Mary Fritz	Mrs. Helen Kline
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Funck	Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kline
Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Gackenbach	Dora I. Koch
Mr. and Mrs. Perry Geary	Mr. and Mrs. James Koch
Mrs. E. T. Gehman	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Knauer
Mrs. Florence Gehman	Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Kufen
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gehman	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kuhns, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Gehman	Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laudenschlager
Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Gehman	Joyce P. Mann
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Gehman	Dr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gehman	Mr. and Mrs. George McCann
Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Gehman	Mrs. Mayme McDonald
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Gehman	M. J. Miller and Son
Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Gehman	Mover Bakery
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gehman	Hilda Moyer
Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillip Geissinger	Mrs. Grace Gehman Musselman
Geho and Son	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Musselman
Rev. and Mrs. T. D. Gehret	

PATRON LIST

Mrs. Rose Lambert Musselman
Emily Neumoyer
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer W. Nicholas
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel S. Nuss
Edward S. Nuss
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Pretko
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Rapp and family
Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Reese
Reinsmith Funeral Home
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schaeffer
Rev. and Mrs. Donald B. Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. R. Paul Schaeffer
Mrs. Rosa Schaeffer
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Schlonecker & family
Mrs. Ruth Schoff and family
Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Seifert
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Seislove
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Shelly
Mr. and Mrs. Harold P. Shelly
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Shelly
Naomi Shelly
Mr. and Mrs. Nevin Shelly
Mr. and Mrs. Ray H. Shelly
Robert L. Shelly
Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Shelly
Snyder Plumbing and Heating
Mary A. Snyder
Mr. and Mrs. John Stahl
Mrs. Arsula Heist Stengele
Mr. and Mrs. Royce Stengele and family
Morris Stickler
Kathlyne Stortz
Strunk Bros.
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd G. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. John Ummel
Mary Ummel
Mr. and Mrs. George Vaughn
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Weaver
Charles Weaver
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Weller
Wendling Bros.
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wentz
Mr. and Mrs. Paul I. Wentz, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul I. Wentz, Jr.
Wilson Wieand
Mr. and Mrs. James Willitts
Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah K. Wismer
Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Woodring

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